

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
BP Whiting Crude Release - Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

POLREP #2

Progress

BP Whiting Crude Release

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Whiting, IN

Latitude: 41.6763040 Longitude: -87.4757741

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To: Dan Sparks, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

From: Mike Beslow, OSC
Steve Faryan, OSC

Date: 3/26/2014

Reporting Period: 3/26/14

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site z5nb
Number:

Contract
Number:

D.O.
Number:

Action
Memo
Date:

Response OPA

Response Emerg
ency

Autho rity:		Type:	
Respo nse Lead:	PRP	Incide nt Categ ory:	Remo val Actio n
NPL Status :	Non NPL	Opera ble Unit:	
Mobil ization Date:	3/24/2 014	Start Date:	3/24/2 014
Demo b Date:		Comp letion Date:	
CER CLIS ID:		RCRI S ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notifi cation :	
FPN#:	E1451 2	Reim bursa ble Accou nt #:	
1.1.1 Incident Category			
Response to Oil Release at the BP Whiting Refinery			
1.1.2 Site Description			
BP Whiting Refinery located on the shores of Lake Michigan in Whiting, Indiana. Crude Oil was released from a NPDES permitted outfall of the BP Whiting Refinery Water Treatment Plant. The Crude originated at the 12 pipe cooling system which is on the facility and south of the railtracks that separate the refinery from the water treatment plant			

1.1.2.1 Location				
BP Whiting Refinery				
2815 Indianapolis Blvd				
Whiting, In. 46394				
1.1.2.2 Description of Threat				
Crude oil discharge to Lake Michigan				
from the BP Whiting Refinery in Whiting				
, Indiana.				
1.1.3 Preliminary Removal				
Assessment/Removal Site Inspection				
Result				
BP reported the release of crude oil to				
USEPA via the National Response Center				
at approximately 1700 on March 24, 2014.				
2. Current Activities				
2.1 Operations Section				
2.1.1 Narrative				
Crude Oil originating at the 12 pipe area				
cooling system flowed to the waste water				
treatment plant and into the #6 oil water				
separator. The crude was discovered by an				
electronic sensor in the #6 oil water				
separator at approximately 4.30 PM on				
March 24, 2014. The # 6 oil water				
separator unit became over-saturated with				
oil, and began discharging directly to Lake				
Michigan via the permitted NPDES outfall				
on BP property. The oil was detected by a				
electronic sensor in the waste water				
treatment plant after 4 PM. BP				
immediately deployed 1000 feet of boom				
around the discharge that was in place by				
6pm. BP immediately began vac truck				
operations to remove the oil from the				
separator unit. When OSC Beslow arrived				
on scene at approximately 9pm, Mar 24,				
there was no visible discharge of oil from				
the NPDES permitted outfall to the lake.				
Oil was observed in the water behind the				
boom and recovery operations were being				
conducted in the oil water separator.				
Boom was deployed across the water to				

contain the oil sheen, and 12 vacuum trucks were operating in both the #6 separator, and on the lake shore.				
2.1.2 Response Actions to Date				
The following activities occurred during ops from 00:00 to 12:00 on 3/26:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boat ops were suspended due to high winds from 00:00 until 07:00. At 07:00, 6 boat crews launched and began performing boom repair and maintenance operations.• Ground crews performed manual collection of tar balls and oil-impacted sand at lake front.• Vac trucks were staged and performing vac operations at lake front.• BP industrial hygienists performed air monitoring via 7 AreaRAEs and UltraRAE. VOC readings ranged from 0-1 ppm. All readings for Benzene were non-detect.• START performed air monitoring and cross-checking of BP air monitoring data. They also provided oversight to booming and oil recovery operations.• SCAT teams mobilized and began shoreline and submerged oil assessment operations.				
The following activities occurred during day ops from 12:00 to 23:59 on 3/26:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•				
2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)				
BP has been issued a Federal Notice of Interest				
2.1.4 Progress Metrics				
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2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Continue 24 hour oil response activities to remediate oil, tar balls on the beach, oiled rocks and remove oil from the oil water separator. Currently EPA has a 24 hour presence. As new data is evaluated, EPA will reevaluate the operational period.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Night crews will monitor and clean up the beach. Crews will continue to skim the oil from the #6 oil water separator.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Crews will continue cleaning the beach of tar and oil. Crews will investigate submerged oil and continue to remove tar patties and tar balls along the beach. SCAT crews will continue to assess shoreline and submerged oil conditions and provide data and recommendations to planning and operations.

2.2.2 Issues

Night ops were temporarily suspended due to high winds, leaving boom broken for a period of approximately 7 hours. Absorbents are being maintained at the #6 separator.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

FPN E14512 Whiting Refinery has been opened with the USCG NPFC for \$25,000 START TDD was increased to \$30,000 on

3/26/2014.				
Estimated Costs	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$30,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	66.67%
Intramural Costs				
USEPA - Direct	\$16,963.00	\$0.00	\$16,963.00	100.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$3,037.00	\$0.00	\$3,037.00	100.00%
Total Site Costs	\$50,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$40,000.00	80.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

Safety is being staffed by BP Whiting Refinery

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

Liason is being staffed by BP Whiting Refinery

2.5.3 Information Officer

Megan McSeveny has been on scene reporting to the USEPA Regional Office. She is working with representatives from the USCG and BP. On Site media interviews have been conducted by USEPA and USCG with local news channels.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

USEPA, USCG, BP

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

City of Whiting, City of Hammond, City of East Chicago,

4. Personnel On Site

2: START Weston

3 : USEPA Personnel

3 USCG Personnel

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Crews are working 12 hours shifts and 24 hour operations.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.